

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

Replacement of the translation serving as Specification with a Substitute Specification, with US-style headings and lacking reference to the claims, will await allowance of a claim.

Main claim 15 has been substantially limited to define the invention with somewhat greater particularity over the art. More specifically, amended claim 15 recites as shown in the drawing an adapter 10 adapted to fit with a power track 11 having grooves 18a-f holding conductors 20a-f. The adapter 10 comprises:

- a first dielectric housing shell 34b;
- webs 46a-c on the first shell 34b forming a journal;
- an elastically spreadable fork 36d-e on the first shell 34b at the journal 46a-c;
- a second dielectric housing shell 34a fittable with the first shell 34b and having a retaining surface 52;
- a hinge 44 between the shells 34a and 34b;
- a control shaft 21 or 22 fittable and rotatable in the journal 46a-c and having a retaining surface grippable in the fork 36d-e; and

a retaining formation 50 on the first shell 34b and snugly engageable with the retaining surface 52 of the second shell 34a.

This construction is extremely convenient to use and assemble, and it can be made at very low cost. The shaft is snapped into the fork and the two housing halves are hinged together, and the resultant structure is stable and strong.

The main reference, EP 560,445 of vanderVliet which is part of the admitted prior art, describes a two-part adapter. It lacks the hinge according to this invention the snap-in journal/fork, and the retaining formations. Thus it all alone cannot be used to reject amended claim 15 under §102. There is no suggestion to provide the missing elements, so a §103 rejection is similarly out of the question.

In DE 2,810,681 of Seelbach, which is also part of the admitted prior art and which represents the structure this invention is an improvement on, there is once again no hinged snap-together construction. Neither is there any journal/fork structure that grips the shaft. Thus even if the teachings of Seelbach and vanderVliet are combined, critical elements of the claimed invention are lacking, making a §103 rejection on these combined references impossible.

The connector of US 3,519,978 of Taormina has two parts and a hinge, but nothing resembling the shaft and gripping journal/fork defined in amended claim 15. Thus even the three-part combination of this reference with vanderVliet and Seelbach cannot produce a valid §103 rejection.

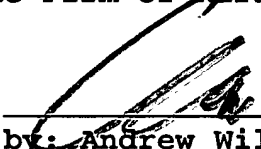
Finally, US patent 4,702,975 of Fields described a wholly nonanalogous structure, namely a spare-battery holder. It has nothing resembling an adapter with a rotatable shaft gripped in a journal/fork. In fact nothing in the art suggests such a construction, much less one combined with the two-part snap-together housing of the invention, so that even a four-barrel rejection of amended claim 15 on Fields plus vanderVliet plus Seelbach plus Taormina cannot form a valid §103 rejection.

For these reasons the claims in the case are felt to be in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the

necessary corrections. Also the examiner is reminded that the translation does not meet US formal requirements and needs to be revised before the case can be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.



by: Andrew Wilford, 26,597
Attorney for Applicant

13 July 2005
5676 Riverdale Avenue Box 900
Bronx, NY 10471-0900
Cust. No.: 535
Tel: (718) 884-6600
Fax: (718) 601-1099

Enclosure: Request for extension (one month)